REMARKS

Claims 1-15 are pending in the present application. By this Amendment, claims 10-15 are amended. Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejection, and allowance of the claims.

I. Allowable subject matter

The Examiner has indicated that claim 9 is allowed, and claims 2-4 and 6-8 contain allowable subject matter and would be allowed if rewritten in independent form. Applicant thanks the Examiner for the indication of allowable subject matter. However, Applicant respectfully declines to amend the allowable claims at this time, because it is believed that the independent claims from which they depend are also allowable, for at least the reasons discussed herein.

II. Claims 1 and 5 are novel

Claims 1 and 5 stand rejected due to alleged anticipation under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) over Dobbins (U.S. Patent No. 5,751,971). Applicant respectfully submits that Dobbins fails to disclose all of the features recited in claims 1 and 5, as required for an anticipation rejection. For at least the reasons herein, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejection.

Applicant respectfully submits that Dobbins fails to disclose all of the claimed combinations of features. For example, but not by way of limitation, Applicant respectfully submits that Dobbins fails to disclose that the forwarding of the internet packets is accomplished based only on the global internet addresses, as recited in independent claims 1 and 5. For additional details, Applicant refers the Examiner to column 9, line 27-column 10, line 37, which discloses that the physical address, in addition to the IP address, is also used. Therefore,

Applicant respectfully submits that Dobbins fails to disclose all of the features recited in independent claims 1 and 5.

Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejections, and allowance of the claims.

III. Claims 10-15 would not have been obvious

Claims 10-15 stand rejected due to alleged obviousness under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over the Examiner's proposed combination of Dobbins in view of Speakman (U.S. Patent No. 6,389,475) and previously cited Sosa. Applicant respectfully submits that the Examiner's proposed combination of references fails to disclose or suggest all of the claimed combinations of features, as required for prima facie obviousness rejection. For at least the reasons herein, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejections, and allowance of the claims.

Applicant respectfully submits that the Examiner's proposed combinations of references fails to disclose or suggest all of the claimed combinations of features. For example, but not by way of limitation, Applicant respectfully submits that the Examiner's proposed combination of references fails to disclose or suggest that the edge router sets up a multicast group and the destination host generates a multicast join message, such that the multicast group is joined when the multicast join message is received by said the edge router as recited in claim 13, that the edge router sets up the multicast group as recited in claims 14 and 15, or that the Resource Reservation Protocol message is sent at assignment of the global internet address as recited in claims 10-12. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejections, and allowance of the claims.

IV. Conclusion

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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WASHINGTON OFFICE

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PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Date: March 27, 2003

APPENDIX
VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE CLAIMS:

The claims are amended as follows:

10. (Twice amended) A destination host for use in a private internet network, internet packets being forwarded from said destination host towards a host connected to an internet network or vice versa, said private internet network comprising at least one router and at least one said destination host, each coupled to one of said at least one router, said private internet network being coupled to said internet network through at least one edge router and wherein said destination host is assigned a global internet address, said destination host comprising:

a. internet packet sending and reception means, adapted to either send internet packets or receive said internet packets, characterised in that said destination host further comprises the following means;

b. assignment detection means, adapted to detect if said destination host has been configured for internet connectivity and a global internet address has been assigned; and

c. adjacent router notification means, coupled with an input to an output of said assignment detection means and adapted to send a Resource Reservation Protocol message containing said global internet address to an adjacent router of said destination host along a shortest path in direction of said edge router in order to update a routing-table of said adjacent router, wherein said Resource Reservation Protocol message is sent at assignment of said global internet address.

11. (Twice amended) A router for use in a private internet network, internet packets being forwarded from a destination host of said private internet network towards a host connected to an internet network or vice versa, said private internet network comprising at least one said router and at least one said destination host, each coupled to one of at least one said router, said private internet network being coupled to said internet network through at least one edge router, said router comprising:

a. message reception means adapted to receive a Resource Reservation Protocol message, characterised in that said router further comprises the following means:

b. message interpretation means, coupled with an input to an output of said message reception means and adapted to interpret said Resource Reservation Protocol message containing a global internet address of said destination host;

c. routing-table updating means, coupled with an input to an output of said message interpretation means and adapted to update a routing-table with said global internet address of said destination host; and

d. message forwarding means, coupled with an input to an output of said routing-table updating means and adapted to forward said Resource Reservation Protocol message containing said global internet address of said destination host towards an adjacent router or edge router on a shortest path between said destination host and said edge router, wherein said Resource Reservation Protocol message is sent at assignment of said global internet address.

12. (Twice amended) An edge router for use in a private internet network, internet packets being forwarded from a destination host of said private internet network towards a host

connected to an internet network or vice versa, said private internet network comprising at least one said router and at least one said destination host, each coupled to one of said at least one said router, said private internet network being coupled to said internet network through at least one said edge router, said edge router comprising:

a. message reception means adopted to receive a Resource Reservation Protocol message, characterised in that said edge router further comprises the following means:

b. message interpretation means, coupled with an input to an output of said message reception means and adapted to interpret said Resource Reservation Protocol message containing a global internet address of said destination host; and

c. routing-table updating means, coupled with an input to an output of said message interpretation means and adapted to update a routing-table with said global internet address of said destination host, wherein said Resource Reservation Protocol message is sent at assignment of said global internet address.

13. (Twice amended) A destination host for use in a private internet network, internet packets being forwarded from said destination host towards a host connected to an internet network or vice versa, said private internet network comprising at least one router and at least one said destination host, each coupled to one of said at least one router and where said destination host is assigned a global internet address, said private internet network being coupled to said internet network through at least one edge router, said destination host comprising:

a. internet packet sending and reception means, adapted to either send internet packets or receive said internet packets characterised in that said destination host further comprises the following means:

b. assignment detection means, adapted to detect if said destination host gets internet connectivity and a global internet address is assigned; and

c. multicast subscription means, coupled with an input to an output of said assignment detection means and adapted to notify an adjacent router of said private internet network on a shortest path towards said edge router about the presence of a subscribing destination host using a multicast protocol and said global internet address, wherein said at least one edge router sets up a multicast group and said destination host generates a multicast join message, such that said multicast group is joined when said multicast join message is received by said at least one edge router.

14. (Twice amended) A router for use in a private internet network, internet packets being forwarded from a destination host of said private internet network towards a host connected to an internet network or vice versa, said private internet network comprising at least one said router and at least one said destination host, each coupled to one of said at least one router and wherein said destination host is assigned a global internet address, said private internet network being coupled to said internet network through at least one edge router, characterised in that said router comprises:

a. message reception means, adapted to receive a multicast message containing said global internet address;

b. multicast group updating means, coupled with an input to an output of said message reception means and adapted to interpret said multicast message containing said global internet address of said destination host and update a multicast group in order to establish a branch of a multicast tree; and

c. message forwarding means, coupled with an input to an output of said multicast group updating means and adapted to forward a multicast message containing said global internet address of said destination host towards an adjacent router or edge router on a shortest path between said destination host and said edge router, wherein said at least one edge router sets up said multicast group.

15. (Twice amended) An Edge Router, for use in a private internet network, internet packets being forwarded from a destination host of said private internet network towards a host connected to an internet network or vice versa, said private internet network comprising at least one router and at least one said destination host, each coupled to one of said at least one router and wherein said destination host is assigned a global internet address, said private internet network being coupled to said internet network through at least one said edge router, characterised in that said edge router comprising:

a. message reception means, adapted to receive a multicast message containing said global internet address; and

b. multicast group updating means, coupled with an input to an output of said message reception means and adapted to interpret said multicast message containing said global internet address of said destination host and update a multicast group based on said global internet

address in order to establish a branch of a multicast tree, wherein said at least one edge router sets up said multicast group.